

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of obtaining information related to a
2 specific product from multiple ~~remote~~ databases accessible over the Internet via a
3 communications server using a hand-held personal communication device (PCD), said PCD
4 having a display and means for communicating with the communication server, the method
5 comprising the steps of:
6 a) entering product information into said PCD;
7 b) transmitting the product information to the communication server from the
8 PCD;
9 c) transmitting a search query to the communication server from the PCD,
10 wherein the search query includes a request to obtain information related to the specific product;
11 d) processing the search query to obtain the product related information from
12 [[one]] two or more of the multiple ~~remote~~ databases, wherein at least one of the databases is
13 remote from the communication server;
14 e) responding to the search query by sending the product related information from
15 the communication server to the PCD; and
16 f) displaying at least a portion of the product related information on the PCD.

1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the PCD is a cellular phone.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the PCD includes an OCR
2 reader for reading product information, and wherein the step of entering product information
3 includes reading the product information using the OCR reader.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the PCD includes a scanning
2 mechanism for scanning a product code on the specific product, and wherein the step of entering
3 product information includes scanning the product code with the scanning mechanism.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the product code is a bar code.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the PCD includes a keypad,
2 and wherein the step of entering product information includes manually entering the product
3 information using the keypad.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein steps b) and c) are performed
2 at substantially the same time.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the product information
2 includes a product code, wherein the communication server is communicably coupled to one or
3 more product code libraries, each of said libraries storing product codes in relation to product
4 identifiers, and wherein the method further includes the step of the communication server
5 obtaining a product identifier for the specific product from one of the libraries.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of processing the
2 search query includes the steps of sending the search query to a search engine, conducting a
3 search by the search engine, and returning the results of the search from the search engine to the
4 communication server.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the search engine is resident
2 on one of the communication server and a second server communicably coupled to the
3 communication server over the Internet.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the displayed product related
2 information includes one of competitive pricing information for multiple merchants, a product
3 review of the specific product and locations of merchants that sell the specific product.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of the user
2 formulating a second query in response to the displayed product related information.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the second query includes a
2 request to purchase the specific product from a specific merchant.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A method of obtaining competitive pricing
2 information for a specific product from multiple ~~remote~~ databases associated with different
3 merchants, said databases being accessible over the Internet via a communications server using a
4 hand-held personal communication device (PCD), said PCD having a display, a scanning
5 mechanism for scanning product codes, and means for communicating with the communication
6 server, the method comprising the steps of:

7 a) scanning a product code into said PCD, wherein the product code is located on
8 said specific product;

9 b) transmitting the product code to the communication server from the PCD;

10 c) transmitting a search query to the communication server from the PCD,
11 wherein the search query includes a request to obtain competitive pricing information for the
12 specific product;

13 d) processing the search query to obtain the competitive pricing information from
14 two or more of the multiple ~~remote~~ databases, wherein at least one of the databases is remote
15 from the communication server;

16 e) responding to the search query by sending the competitive pricing information
17 from the communication server to the PCD; and

18 f) displaying at least a portion of the competitive pricing information on the PCD.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of the user
2 formulating a second query in response to the displayed competitive pricing information wherein
3 the second query includes a request to purchase the specific product from a specific merchant.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the communication server is
2 communicably coupled to one or more product code libraries, each of said libraries storing
3 product codes in relation to product identifiers, wherein the method further includes the step of
4 the communication server obtaining a product identifier for the specific product from one of the
5 libraries.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the PCD is a cellular phone.

1 18. (Currently amended) An communication system for obtaining information
2 related to a specific product from multiple databases accessible over the Internet, the system
3 comprising:

4 a remote communication server communicably coupled over the Internet with the
5 multiple databases; and

6 a hand-held personal communication device (PCD), including:

7 an input mechanism for entering product information;

8 a keypad for manually entering alphanumeric information;

9 a display for displaying a user interface;

10 communication means for communicating with the remote

11 communication server;

12 wherein when a user desires to obtain information related to a specific product,
13 the user enters product information associated with the specific product using the input
14 mechanism of the PCD and enters a search query requesting information related to the specific
15 product, wherein the PCD communicates the product information and the query to the remote
16 communication server via the communication means, wherein the remote server processes the
17 query, searches two or more of the multiple databases to obtain the requested information and
18 returns the requested information to the PCD.

1 19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the input mechanism includes
2 one of an OCR reader and a bar code scanner.

1 20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the product information
2 includes a product code, further comprising one or more product code libraries communicably
3 coupled to the communication server, wherein when the communication server receives the
4 product code from the PCD, the server sends the product code to one of the libraries, wherein the
5 library returns a product identifier associated with the product code, and wherein the
6 communication server processes the query using the product identifier.

1 21. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the requested information
2 includes one of competitive pricing information for the specific product from multiple

3 merchants, product review information for the specific product and locations of merchants that
4 sell the specific product.

1 22. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the PCD is a cellular phone, a
2 nd wherein the communication means includes a cellular transceiver.

1 23. (Currently Amended) A method of obtaining information related to a
2 specific product from multiple ~~remote~~ databases accessible over the Internet via a
3 communications server using a cellular phone having a display and means for communicating
4 with the communication server, the method comprising the steps of:

5 a) entering product information into the cellular phone using one of a bar code
6 scanner and an OCR reader integrated in the cellular phone;

7 b) transmitting the product information to the communication server from the
8 cellular phone;

9 c) transmitting a search query to the communication server from the cellular
10 phone, wherein the search query includes a request to obtain information related to the specific
11 product;

12 d) processing the search query to obtain the product related information from
13 [[one]] two or more of the multiple ~~remote~~ databases, wherein at least one of the databases is
14 remote from the communication server;

15 e) responding to the search query by sending the product related information from
16 the communication server to the cellular phone; and

17 f) displaying at least a portion of the product related information on the cellular
18 phone display.

1 24. (New) A method of obtaining personal information related to a specific
2 product from a database accessible over the Internet via a communications server using a hand-
3 held personal communication device (PCD), said PCD having a display and means for
4 communicating with the communication server, the method comprising the steps of:

5 a) entering product information for a product into said PCD by a user;

6 b) transmitting the product information to the communication server from the
7 PCD;

8 c) transmitting a search query to the communication server from the PCD,
9 wherein the search query includes a request to obtain personal information related to the specific
10 product;
11 d) processing the search query to obtain the product related personal information
12 from the database;
13 e) responding to the search query by sending the product related personal
14 information from the communication server to the PCD; and
15 f) displaying at least a portion of the product related personal information on the
16 PCD.

1 25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the personal information
2 includes a number of times the product was purchased by the user.

26. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein one of the multiple databases from
which product related information is obtained includes product related personal information
stored in relation to a user identifier.